

# Alabama Community Healthy Marriage Initiative Project

**Problem Statement:** Alabama has a history of high levels of marital and family instability. Because of this, Alabama's children face tremendous risks to their healthy development and well-being. Although awareness of the importance of and experience in marriage education has grown through demonstration project activities, there is great need to broaden the public awareness of the Healthy Marriage Initiative and to expand community efforts to implement effective marriage education programs.

**Underlying assumption of project design:** The implementation of a coordinated multi-level, multiple-activity Community Healthy Marriage Initiative saturation design will promote access to important healthy marriage resources for professionals and family members. A design that includes efforts to raise awareness of the importance of healthy stable marriages for child, family, and community well-being; efforts to promote access to healthy marriage resources; efforts to train community members and professionals in methods of best practices for marriage education and community coalition building; and efforts to support targeted community healthy marriage initiatives that provide programming for youth, nonmarried adults, and married adults will result in measurable positive impacts in individual, family, and community well-being among a high-need population.

